(b) whether these projects are to be taken up during 2003-04 at an estimated project outlay of Rs.10,000 crores; and

(c) whether the successful bidders would be given the complete turn-key assignment from the project feasibility study for construction, operation and maintenance of the highway stretch ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B. C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 3,000 km length of National Highways are proposed to be taken up during 2003-2004 for widening to 4-lanes on Build-Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. The civil works cost varies from Rs. 3 to 4 crores per km.

(c) The successful bidders would be given the assignment of design, construction, operation and maintenance of the highway stretches. The Feasibility Study is proposed to be carried out separately.

National Highways in Bihar

5082. SHRI LALU PRASAD : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had declared 19 roads covering a length of 2200 kms in Bihar as National Highways during the last 5 years;

(b) whether a major portion of these newly created highways is in bad shape;

(c) whether a proposal for repair of 1155 kms of these highways at an estimate of Rs.482 crores has been submitted to Government during the current financial year;

(d) whether Government propose to sanction this proposal; and

(e) if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B. C. KHANDURI) : (a) 18 numbers of State roads having a length of 2035 kms have been declared as National Highways during the last five years.

(b) The newly declared National Highways need improvement, which is being done within the available resources.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.